

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendments apply to the claims of record, which were submitted as an Article 19 amendment and published with the International application. A copy of the Article 19 claims was submitted with the request for national entry.

The foregoing amendments to the claims remove the multiple dependencies and PCT "characterizing clause" terminology and also include minor amendments for greater clarity and consistency with the description and drawings.

The amendments to the specification and drawings are for greater clarity and consistency.

The amendments to pages 3 and 4 render the DISCLOSURE OF INVENTION section consistent with the amended claims.

The source 11 of the CATV signals has been added to the drawings and description so as to make it clear that they do not originate in the OLT 10. The introduction of symbols is to make it easier to identify the counterpropagating optical signals S1, S2, S3 and their portions or parts (S1', S2', S3' and S2'', S3'''). The addition of "PHOTO-" in DETECTOR boxes 62, 64 and 66 and "POWER" in DETECTOR boxes 54 and 56 is to make it clearer that detectors 62, 64 and 66 are not the same as detectors 54 and 56. The caption in box 58 of Figure 2 was wrong and has been amended to read "PROCESSOR". Obviously, an analog-to-digital converter would not provide the required processing. For similar reasons, the term "measuring means" has been introduced in the claims.

The references to "peak" power in the drawings and description were erroneous so they have been deleted. The error was apparent from other parts of the specification as originally filed, such as the statement on page 7, line 5 that the amplified signal was ... "to provide a measure of the average power" (*emphasis added*) - which does not require peak detection.

Other amendments correct clerical/typographical errors and so are considered to be self-explanatory.

It is submitted that no new subject matter has been added by these amendments.

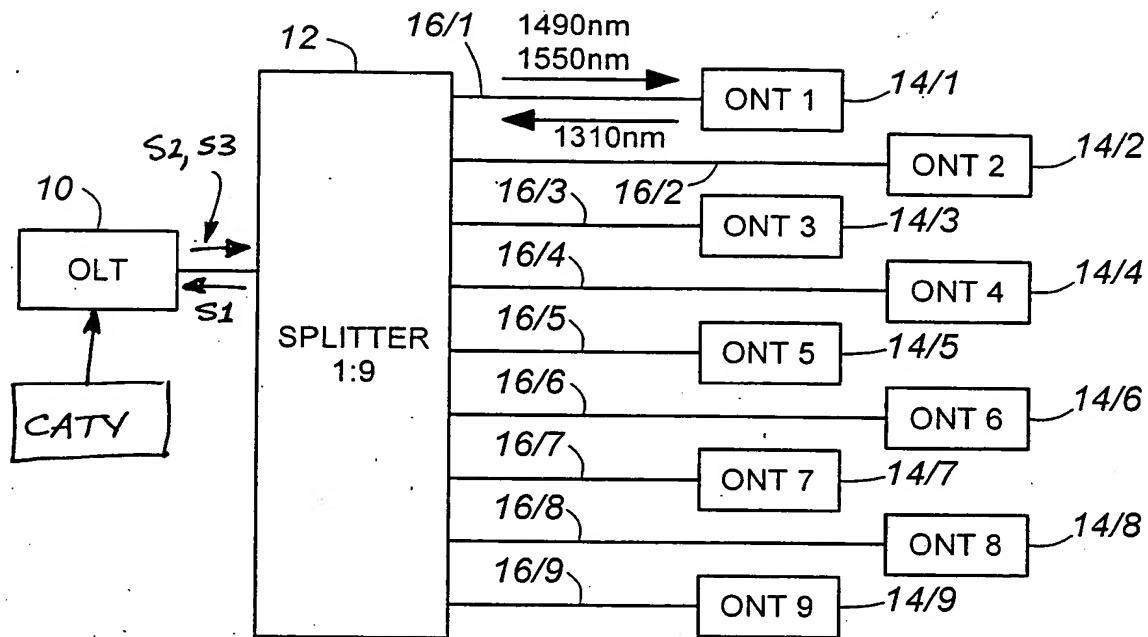


FIG. 1

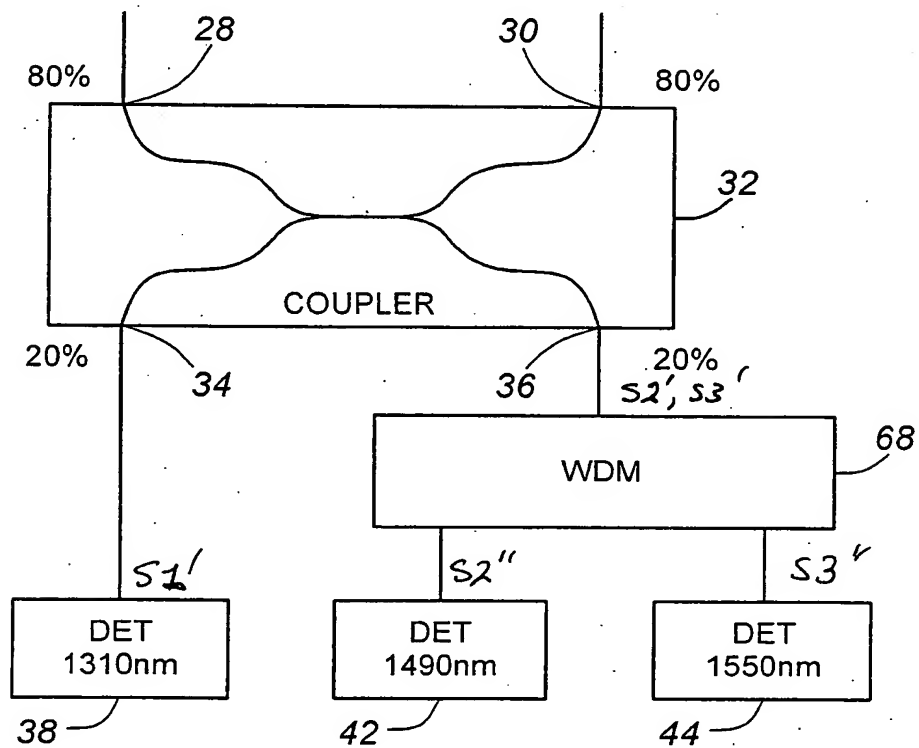


FIG. 3

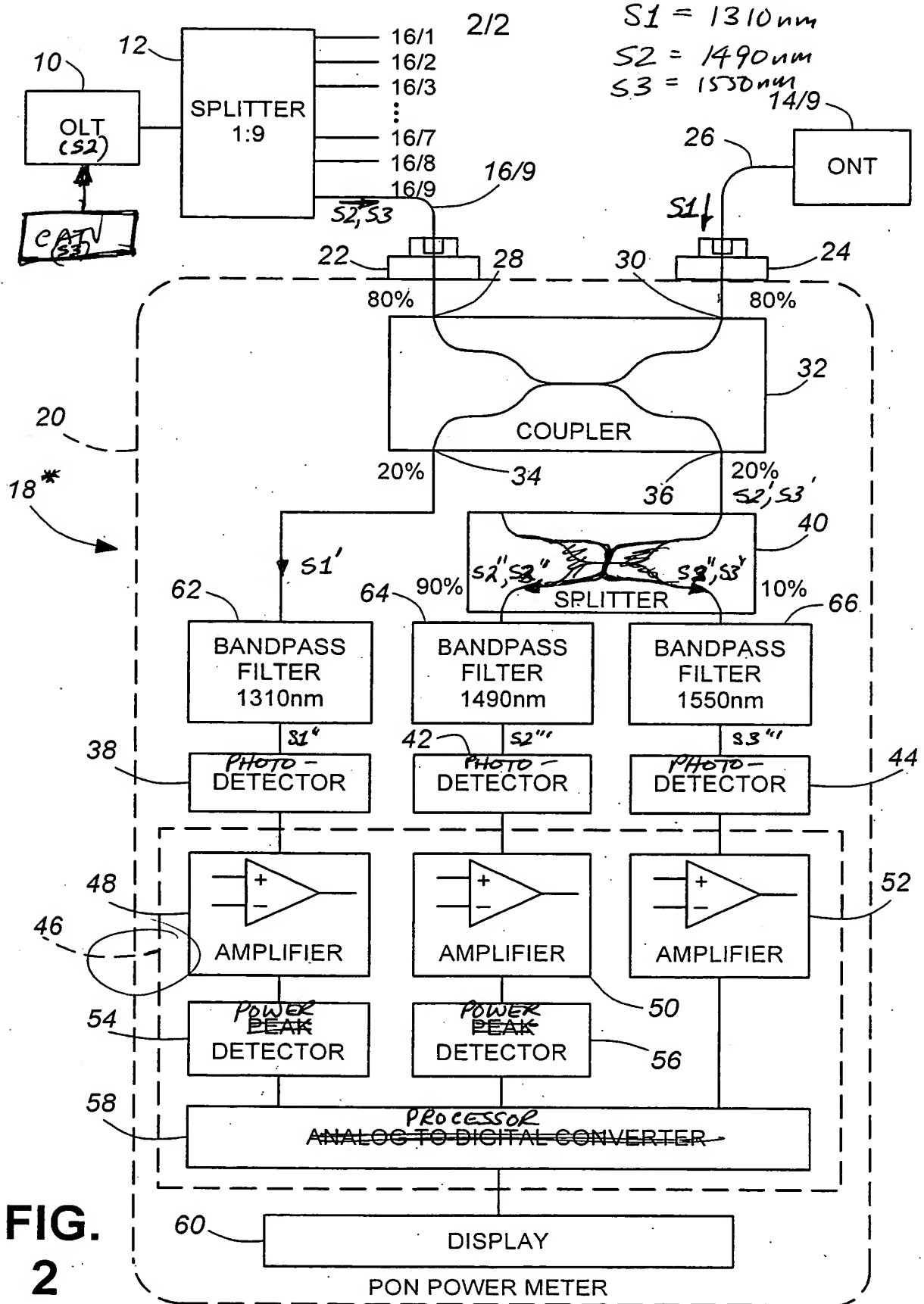


FIG. 2